N.A.A.C.P. – 1929

20th Annual Meeting of N. A. A. C. P. Held In Cleveland, O., June 26 To July 2, Covers Wide Field Of Action

Prejudice A Stronger Factor In American Life Than Christianity, Declares Nannie H. Burroughs, In Strong Address Thursday

Cleveland, O.—The opening mass meeting of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored people was addressed by Miss Mary White Ovington, chairman of the board of directors. This was the 20th annual meeting of the body and it ran through from June 26 to July 2.

Miss Ovington declared that the association reflects the history of the American Negro in all its phases during the last twenty years, and that it has touched every element of his life. It has assisted in education; disclosed discrimination in distribution of school funds in the South and has prevented many segregated schools in the North. It has defend the race's right to live wherever his mony will take him. It has greatly lessened the crime of lynching, and succeeded in getting a Supreme Court decision against the Texas white primary.

Dr. W. E. B. DuBois delivered the keynote address, reviewing the work of the association during the last twenty years.

Prejudice Strongest Factor

At the Thursday night meeting Miss Nannie H. Burroughs, founder and principal of the National Training School for Women and Girls at Washington, declared that prejudice is a stronger factor in American life than Christianity, and that lynching, segregation, mob lawlessness and race prejudice are "millstones about the neck of American democracy that will drag it down unless justice is substituted for inequalities."

Another speaker was Edwin R. Embree, president of the Julius Rosenwald Fund, who asserted that the American Negro has become the Negro's native talents to the maximum efficiency.

The Sunday afternoon meeting was held in the Municipal Auditorium and Congressman Hamilton Fish jr., of New York was the principal speaker. He designated the critics of Mrs. Herbert Hoover for having entertained the wife of Congressman DePriest as "political and social vultures, who are always seeking an opportunity to pounce upon some item for political advantage and with raucous cries to rend the skies with their denunciation of twelve million law-abiding colored American citizens for daring to hold their heads up and seeking rights under the law."

Social Issue A Camouflage

Mr. Fish declared that "the whole Negro problem may be summed up in the words, justice, more justice, and still more justice. The social equality issue is just a camouflage raised by the crackers of the South. The fight of twelve million Negroes in the United States will go on steadily and without fear or favor until they have won all their civil rights; the right to earn a living, to educate their children, to own property and to secure the protection of the guarantee of the Federal Constitution for their property and lives."

Congressman Oscar DePriest was one of the speakers on Monday, and he told of his campaign to disseminate a knowledge among members of race of the Constitution of the United States and of the Declaration of Independence. Realizing that men and women cannot demand their rights unless they know what these rights are, he has printed, at his own expense, 10,000 copies of Senate Document 112, presenting the Constitution and the Declaration of Independence, for free distribution in the carrying out of which project he has enlisted the cooperation of teachers, ministers, lawyers, lodge secretaries, secretaries of other bodies and leaders generally.

Voters should defeat all candidates who fail to uphold the guaranties of the Constitution.

Mrs. Eleanor R. Wembridge, referee of the Juvenile Court here in Cleveland, deplored the fact that Negro juvenile delinquents have no organizations to come to their aid and to save them from committment to state institutions. She pointed out also that white girls, even the foreign born, have representatives from church, lodge or employer to show interest in their cases and to provide homes with supervision and thus are saved from state institutions, while the colored girl, committing the same misdemeanor would have to be sent way because of a lack of aid from church or social groups.

Must Battle For Ballot

Another speaker was Judge Ira W. Jayne, of the Wayne County Circuit Court, Detroit, who pointed out that the Negro's next battleground in America will be over the ballot. Most ardent advocates of enforcing some of the Amendments to the Constitution, he said, are the the most strentuous nullifiers of the 14th and 15th Amendments. The reapportionment measure in Congress is the most vulnerable point of attack.

Mrs. Sallie W. Steward, president of the National Association of Colored Women, said that Negro women must shoulder the task of rooting out undesirable traits fostered by slavery, and must bring such training as will refine and develop

LEADERS FROM TWO CONTINENTS

Twentieth Year of Negro Bodies Being Celebrated

NAT'L ASS'N FOR ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE IN CLEVELAND, OHIO

Cleveland, June 26—Greetings from leaders in England and the United States to the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People which opens its Twentieth Anniversary Conference here tonight, were made public today in the form of messages from Professor Gilbert Murray of Oxford; L. T. Hobhouse, the English sociologist; and from a list of Americans including Paul M. Warburg, former member of the Federal Reserve Board; Sinclair Lewis, H. L. Mencken, Waldo Frank, Will W. Alexander of Atlanta, Director of the Commission on Interracial Cooperation; Dorothy Canfield Fisher, Charles A. Beard, Countee Cullen, Bishop William F. Faber of Montana; Oswald Garrison Villard, Dorothy and Mark Van Doren, T. S. Stribling and Professor Melville J. Herskovits of Northeastern University.

Professor Murray's message states that the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People has "carried out with sincerity and success the high principle of the Covenant of the League of Nation," to make the welfare and development of peoples and classes not able to protect themselves a "sacred trust to civilization." Mr. Hobhouse warns that "there is nothing of greater importance for the future of white civilization than the establishment of more just and humane relations across the color line," and expresses the wish that such work as the Advancement Association is doing in America could be done for colored people in Africa under the British flag.

Mr. Warburg's greeting states that 'the Association has rendered yeoman service in aiding our colored people when in distress and in blazing the way for a better recognition of their rights." The Association's pioneer campaign against lynching in the United States elicits the praise of Mr Mencken who writes: "If it had achieved nothing else the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People would have deserved the thanks of every fair man for its excellent campaign against lynching."

Dr. Alexander states his belief that the Association "largely under Negro leadership, has given great encouragement to Negroes and helped to stimulate initiative among them in solving their own problems," and that it has helped to train and develop "important Negro leaders."

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People is the oldest body in the United States, since the Civil War, devoting itself to obtaining and safeguarding the civil rights of colored citizens of the United States. It was founded twenty years ago, following the race riots of 1908 in Springfield, Illinois, once the home of Lincoln, by white and colored people determined to bring about better and more enlightened relations between the races. The Association now numbers 305 branches in 44 States with a membership of 90,000. —Nashville Globe

N.A.A.C.P. ENDS ITS TWENTIETH ANN'L MEETING

Negroes Urged to Use Ballot

Present Spingarn Medal to Dr. Johnson

CLEVELAND, Ohio, July 3—(ANP)—With the leaders of every walk of life and from every

section present, the N. A. A. C. P. celebrated its twentieth anniversary here for six days begining Wednesday night, June 26, and closing Tuesday, July 2nd.

It was a real celebration in which the achievements of the Association in the effort to break down the barriers to the progress of the Negro in America were reviewed and new determination to carry on the work during the years to come received and avowed.

According to the reports made here during this meeting, the Association has grown rapidly and steadily in influence and in service rendered. It has overcome many of the obstacles which stood in the way of racial advancement and has made wholesome contacts in every section of this country.

The Record

According to resolutions adopted at the last sesson, Tuesday, the Association has done three notable things; namely, proved that" white and black Americans can work efficiently together for human uplift; that America will furnish funds to fight race prejudice when it realizes that it is not instinctive but a deliberately fashioned weapon of hurt and gain; and that earnest human beings can strive for a radical and even revolutionary ideal without bloodshed and without hate."

With a glowing record behind it the Association now sets forward on the work for the next decade. That the organization realizes the task before it is shown in the statement in the resolutions that we have a heartbreaking fight before us: We face today not simply a provincial and national problem of race and color, but one that belts the world and threatens its progress. We stand here in the greatest republic in the world or strategic and fatal grounds; if we prove that the most diverse races can live together here in equality democracy and self-respect, we can lead the world to peace democracy in industry, and freedon in art. If we feal, we turn back toward war, poerty and slavery.'

Negro Urged to Vote

Negroes were urged to use the ballot. "The American Negroes greatest weapon of offense is the ballot," continued the resolution "We should vote. We should seek alliance with forces which stand for honest government, the abolition of privilege and the socialization of wealth, but whenever these liberals deny us fellowship and draw the color line, we are justified in making alliance which defends us from political annihilation, economic discrimination and social insult."

The organization went on record as approving President Hoover's decision to clean up Southern politics and to investigate law enforcement, and only hope that common honesty and logical consistency will not stop reform short of a full exposure of the rotten borough methods of the South, the systematic illegal disfranchisement, lynching, segregation, injustice toward Negroes in the courts, and barbarous punishment and convict lease system for black folks."

Some of the important events on the program of the celebration were: the art exhibitoin held at the Museum of Art, and the awarding of the Spingarn medal to Dr. Mordecai Johnson, president of Howard University.

20 YEAR HISTORY OF NEGRO IN U. S. REFLECTED IN N.A.A.C.P., SAYS FOUNDER.

Mary White Ovington Addresses Oening Mass Meeting of Cleveland Conference.

Cleveland, July 1.—The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People reflects the history of the American Negro in all its phases during the past twenty years declared Mary White Ovington of New York, chairman of the Association's Board of Directors, at the opening mass meeting last night of the Twentieth anniversary conference being held here through July 2.

"The history of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People for the past twenty years, is a history of the Negro race," said Miss Ovington. "There is no phase of his life that the Association has not touched. It has assisted him in his education, disclosing the discrimination against him in the distribution of school funds in the South, and has prevented many segregated schools in the North. It has been a leader in the fight against housing, it has repeatedly affirmed the Negro's right to live where his money will take him and this affirmation has been made effective by Supreme Court decisions. It secured the verdict that Dr. Sweet could defend his home.

"The Association has greatly lessened the crime of lynching. It has made dents in the doctrine of 'white supremacy,' securing the Supreme Court decision against the Texas white primary.

"What will it do in the next 20 years? Probably its work will be along much the same lines as now. An oppressed minority has a slow task to win full citizenship. It will gain its rights only inch by inch. I like to think that we are the torch bearers. Work is doubly hard, if it is done in the dark. Then, too, we furnish the tools of warfare in our peaceful conflict. More and more we can say that every city of any size in the country where Negroes dwell has its company of 'trained troops.' They have come with their ammunition to this conference. They are earnest and they will not lay down their arms until they see that color is obliterated, the full rights of citizenship belong o black as well as to whites in these United States."

N. A. A. C. P. TO MEET IN SPRINGFIELD

New York, July 19—The 21st Annual Conference of the N. A. A. C. P will meet in June, 1930 at Springfield Mass., it was announced today. Acting upon cordial invitations extended by the Springfield Branch of the N. A. A. C. P. and by the Springfied Chamber of Commerce, the Committee on Time and Place of the Cleveland Conference recommended their acceptance, which recommendation was approved unanimously by the Conference.

It is felt that the Springfield Conference.

It is felt that the Springfiled Conference will be assured of success as more than ten years have passed since an annual meeting of the N. A. A. C. P. was held in New England. The Springfield Branch has for years been one of the most consistently active units of the Advancement Association and its officers have established an enviable record for local activity and support of the national work.

The Rev. G. R. Waller, member of the National Board of Directors and one of the founders of the N. A. A. C. P., successfully presented the claims of Cleveland of the Springfield Branch for entertainment of the 21st Annual Conference of the Association.

PLAIN-DEALER
CLEVELAND, O.

JUN 29 1929

LOOKS TO WOMEN TO GUIDE NEGROES

Mrs. Sallie W. Stewart and William Pickens Address N. A. A. C. P. Session.

Two famous orators of the Negro race—one a man and one a woman—last night addressed the third mass meeting of the twentieth annual conference of the Association for the Advancement of Colored People, held at Mount Zion Congregational Church, E. 55th Street and Woodland Avnue S. E.

Mrs. Sallie W. Stewart, Evansville, Ind., president of the National Association of Colored Women, was the woman orator. William Pickens, New York, field secretary of the N. A. A. C. P., was the other speaker. Mrs. Stewart spoke on the responsibilities of the Negro woman in the advancement of her race, while Pickens described the work of his association.

"This race shall not be judged by the land it buys, nor the cities it helps to build, but by the refinement of its motherhood," Mrs. Stewart said. She appealed for the training of Negro youth in the history, achievements and the background of the race.

"The Negro woman of today must shoulder the burden of rooting out all undesirable traits of character implanted in the Negro's character by the institution of slavery. She must train the young so as to refine and develop his native talent to the maximum efficiency. The hearts of black mothers swell with the same hopes and desires and with the same aspirations as do the hearts of women of the other race.'

"Twenty years ago it was almost universally disreputable to be connected with the N. A. A. C. P.,' Pickens said, "and the more cautious members of society were disposed to lose faith in those of us who joined the association then, just as now some members of the association may be disposed to lose faith in us because we take an interest in still more forward movements.

"So it always was and ever will be. Every change is radical. Every distinctly forward step raises doubts. Today the association claims and fights for far more than it claimed in the beginninng, and yet today the association is not felt as being so radical and anti-customary as it was felt to be twenty years ago.

Mentions White House Incident.

"State Legislatures all over the south are passing resolutions censuring Mrs. Hoover because she invited a colored woman to the White House for tea. In Georgia only five legislators dared vote against such a resolution after they had tried to keep it from coming to a vote.

"So much has been invested in Jim Crowism in the south that all the courts of the land, including the Supreme Court, tremble in fear of it. But even that is changing. The competition which the bus and the automobile are giving the railroads in the south has made the railroads more willing to let Negroes ride on the trains, even in the Pullman coaches."

Ira W. Jayne, judge of the Wayne County (Mich.) Circuit Court, also spoke last night. His topic was Negro suffrage in the south. St. John's quartet sang.

Today's program is largely social. At 10 a. m. delegates will be guests of the Museum of Art, with Rossiter Howard, assistant director, addressing them. This afternoon the Cleveland women's auxiliary will give a tea for delegates at the Metropolitan Club and tonight a reception and dance will be held in the ball room of Public Hall. Tomorrow there will be sermons in the various churches and a large mass meeting at Public Hall in the afternoon.

JOURNAL
SYRACUSE, N. Y

OCT 28 1929

LOUIS MARSHALL'S SON TO CONTINUE WORK

James Marshall, son of the late Louis Marshall, native Syracusan will carry on at least one of his father's many activities. Announcement from New York today made known the appointment of Marshall's son to the legal committee of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, to fill vacancy caused by the death of his father.

N.A.A.C.P.-1929

HITS DIXIE IN SPEECH TON.A.A.C.P

Calls Legislators Who Condemned Mrs. Hoover A Lot Of Cowards

CLEVELAND, O., July 3.—Delivering a stirring speech at a mass meeting Monday night as one of the main features of the twentieth anniversary convention of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People here, Congressman Oscar DePriest of the 1st district of Illinois, assailed the members of the southern legislatures which recently passed resolutions condemning Mrs. Hoover for inviting Mrs. eDPriest to attend a reception at the White House.

Amid the cheers and applause of the 2,000 persons who were present at the meeting, Congressman Oscar DePriest hurled charges of cowardice and hipocrisy at the solons of the southern states who had made an issue out of the courtesy extended his wife by the First Lady of the land.

Just A Lot of Cowards

"They're just a lot of cowards", DePriest declared. "This is my country and your country. I was elected to congress the same as any other congressman, and I'm going to have the rights of every other congressman—no more—no less—if it's in the congressional barber shop or at a white house tea."

The whole furore raised about the White House tea, Mr. DePriest declared, is merely a bit of political by-play to yank the solid south back into the Democratic fold. "Social equality" is a bogey man which always has been effective in frightening the southern white man, and the southern Democrats are using it to their advantage. "Prejudice, however," Mr. DePriest added, is not confined to any one party or any one church. They are all tinged with it."

Will Battle Drys

Turning to the subject of prohibition, Mr. DePriest attacked the policy of the government in spending millions for the enforcement of the 18th amendment while the 13th, 14th and 15th amendments are allowed to be violated at will without a penny appropriated for their enforcement.

"I do not propose to vote to appropriate a penny to enforce the 18th amendment until similar sums are voted to enforce these other amendments now being violated all through the south," Mr. DePriest declared.

Reiterates Statement

The Illinois congressman reiterated his statement that as representative of all the people, he will pay as much attention to his white constituents as to the colored. However., he said, that in recommending appointments for West Point and Annapolis, he would name only colored boys, at least until some white congressman whose constituents are mostly white names a colored boy.

DePriest shed some interesting light on his history when he told how his parents came to move to the north.

"I want to thank the Democrats of the south for one thing—they were so barbaric that they drove my parents to the north, he said. "If it hadn't been for that, I would not be in congress now."

Continuing, the congressman said, "I've been Jim Crowed, segregated, persecuted, and I think I know how best the Negro can put a stop to being imposed upon. It is through the ballot, through organization, through fighting eternally for his rights."

Saw Lynching

The reference made by DePriest to his parents having been "driven" to the north harkened back to his childhood in Northern Alabama, where he spent his early days. It was then that he witnessed the lynching of three men near his home. After this terrible occurence his parents determined that there was no future there for them and moved to Kansas. Later, they came to Chicago, where their boy, Oscar after a valiant struggle, rose to the undreamed heights he has now attained.

As the 2,000 persons who packed the hall cheered the congressman there were at least half that many more who stood on the outside, unable to gain admittance.

Lasted Six Days

The twentieth annivversary convention of the N. A. A. C. P. characterized as the greatest ever closed Tuesday night after sessions lasting six days. It was a real celebration in which the achievements of the association in the efforts to break down the barriers set up against the progress of the black man in America were reviewed in retrospect.

Surmounting innumerable obstacles, the reports given indicate the association has grown rapidly and steadily in influence, numbers and services rendered. It is now unquestionably the most powerful and influential organization for racial uplift in existence.

Woman Given Medal

Cleveland, O., July 3.—(ANP.)—Mrs. Memphis T. Garrison, of Gary West Va., was presented with the Madam C. J. Walker gold medal for 1928, at the Cleveland conference of the N. A. A. C. P. The medal is donated by the judges and was presented to Mrs. Garrison by William Pickens.

In presenting the medal, Mr Pickens said: "Madam Walker, like Fredrick Douglas and Booker T. Washington made her own way from the very bottom to the very top. She was noble, generous, hospitable,—a queen among women. It is an honor to wear a medal made possible by the genius of such a spirit." He called attention to the fact that the daughter and the General Manager of the company are carrying on in the spirit of the founder.

Mrs. Garrison gets the medal for "best service to Negro race through the N. A. A. C. P. for 1928." She originated N. A. A. C. P. Christmas seals and sold more than $1200 worth of them. She is a school teacher of Gary, West Va., and a community leader.

According to the resolutions adopted at the last session, Tuesday the association has done three notable things; namely proved "that white and black Americans can work effectively together for human uplift; that America will furnish funds to fight race prejudice when it realizes that it is not instinctive but a deliberately fashioned weapon of hurt and gain; and that earnest human being can strive for a radical and even revolutionary ideal without bloodshed and without hate."

PRESS
CLEVELAND, O

JUL 3 - 1929

DELEGATES TO NEGRO CONVENTION GO HOME

Proposed Legislation to Be Taken Up at September Conference

Hundreds of delegates, who attended the 20th annual conference of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People in Cleveland, left for their homes today.

Legislation, which was recommended at the conference to benefit the Negro race, and which is to be offered in Congress, will be taken up at a conference in New York in September between James Weldon Johnson, secretary of the association and Congressman Oscar De Priest of Chicago.

The Spingarn Medal, awarded each year to the Negro who does the most for the advancement of the race was presented last night to Dr. Mordecai Wyatt Johnson, president of Howard University, Washington, at a mass meeting in Public Music Hall. The presentation was made by Dr. Charles F. Thwing, president emeritus of Western Reserve University. Harry E. Davis, civil service commissioner, presided at the meeting.